ECF

08 Civ. 1457 (RWS)(KNF)

William C. Rand, Esq. LAW OFFICE OF WILLIAM COUDERT RAND 711 Third Ave., Suite 1505 New York, New York 10017 (Phone) (212) 286-1425; (Fax)(212) 599-7909 Attorneys for Plaintiffs

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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CHARLENE JAMES, :

Individually and on Behalf of All Other Persons

Similarly Situated,

Plaintiffs,

-against-

T&H SECURITY, INC., CITADEL SPECIAL : EVENTS SERVICES, INC., THOMAS FERRARA,: REIDA FERRARA, TYRONE A. YORIS and : JOHN DOES #1-10, Jointly and Severally, :

Defendants. : -----X

DECLARATION OF WILLIAM C. RAND, ESQ.

- I, William C. Rand, hereby declare under penalty of perjury that the following is true:
- I, along with Berger and Gottlieb as co-counsel, am the attorney for the named plaintiffs in this action. I make this declaration in connection with Plaintiffs'
 Motion for Approval of Collective Action Notice, filed contemporaneously herewith.
- 2. The Plaintiff commenced this collective action on behalf of herself and on behalf of all others similarly situated by Filing the Complaint on February 11, 2008.
- 3. Among other things, the Complaint seeks to recover on behalf of Plaintiff and other similarly situated current and former employees of Defendants unpaid overtime compensation of one and one-half times the regular rates at which they were employed

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for hours they worked in excess of forty (40) hours per week. (Complaint at First Claim

for Relief).

4. By the motion, Plaintiff requests the Court to approve and authorize

mailing to potential plaintiffs of the proposed collective action notice attached hereto as

Exhibit A and styled "Notice of Lawsuit with Opportunity to Join." In addition, Plaintiff

requests the Court to approve the proposed consent form attached hereto as Exhibit B, for

use by potential plaintiffs who elect to "opt-in" to this case pursuant to FLSA § 216(b),

29 U.S.C. § 216(b).

5. The proposed Notice of Lawsuit with Opportunity to Join (Exh. A)

complies with the requirements for FLSA collection action notices enumerated by

Magistrate Judge Lisa Margaret Smith in Gjurovich v. Emmanuel's Marketplace, Inc.,

282 F. Supp. 2d 101, 106-109 (S.D.N.Y. 2003). Judge Smith's opinion in Gjurovich is to

my knowledge the most exhaustive judicial consideration of the contents of FLSA

collective action notices.

Dated: April 21, 2008

s/William C. Rand

William C. Rand

Attorney for Plaintiffs

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William C. Rand, Esq. LAW OFFICE OF WILLIAM COUDERT RAND 711 Third Ave., Suite 1505 New York, New York 10017 (Phone) (212) 286-1425; (Fax)(212) 599-7909 Attorneys for Plaintiffs

EXHIBIT A TO RAND DECLARATION

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

-----X

CHARLENE JAMES, : ECF
Individually and on Behalf of All Other Persons : 08 Civ. 1457 (RWS)(KNF)

Similarly Situated,

Plaintiffs,

-against-

T&H SECURITY, INC., CITADEL SPECIAL: EVENTS SERVICES, INC., THOMAS FERRARA,: REIDA FERRARA, TYRONE A. YORIS and: JOHN DOES #1-10, Jointly and Severally,:

Defendants.

Defendants. :

NOTICE OF LAWSUIT WITH OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN

FROM: WILLIAM C. RAND-Attorney for Plaintiffs

Law Office of William Coudert Rand

711 Third Avenue, Suite 1505, New York, N.Y. 10017

(212) 286-1425

TO: Current and former employees of T&H Security, Inc., Citadel Special

Events Services, Inc., Thomas Ferrara, Reida Ferrara and/or Tyrone A. Yoris ("Defendants"), who worked as security guards or in other similar non-managerial, non administrative positions on or after

February 11, 2005.

RE: Fair Labor Standards Act Lawsuit filed against T&H Security, Inc.

and Citadel Special Events Services, Inc. and others, seeking

payment for overtime work

I. **INTRODUCTION**

The purpose of this notice is to inform you of the existence of a collective action lawsuit in which you potentially are "similarly situated" to the named Plaintiff, to advise you of how your rights may be affected by this suit, and to instruct you on the procedure for participating in this suit.

The Lawsuit at issue was filed on February 11, 2008, against defendants T&H Security, Inc., Citadel Special Events Services, Inc. and others in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. The Plaintiff alleges that the defendants violated the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act by not paying eligible employees time and one-half, or overtime compensation, for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours per week. The lawsuit is seeking back pay and double liquidated damages from the defendants, as well as costs and attorney's fees to compensate such eligible employees. The Defendants deny the Plaintiff's allegations, and deny that they are liable to the Plaintiff for any of the back pay, damages, costs or attorneys' fees sought.

II. COMPOSITION OF THE COLLECTIVE ACTION CLASS

The named Plaintiffs seek to sue on behalf of themselves and also on behalf of other employees with whom they are similarly situated. Specifically, under the federal law, the Plaintiff seeks to sue on behalf of any and all current and former employees of Defendants, who worked as security guards or in other similar non-managerial, non administrative positions on or after February 11, 2005.

III. YOUR RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LITIGATION

If you fit within the definition above, you may join this case (that is, you may "opt-in"). by completing and mailing the attached "Consent to Become Party Plaintiff" form to Plaintiffs' counsel at the following address:

PLAINTIFFS' COUNSEL

William C. Rand, Esq. LAW OFFICE OF WILLIAM COUDERT RAND 711 Third Avenue, Suite 1505 New York, New York 10017

Telephone: (212) 286-1425; Facsimile: (212) 599-7909

E-mail: wcrand@wcrand.com

The form must be sent to Plaintiffs' counsel in sufficient time to have Plaintiffs' counsel file it with the federal court on or before the date that is 65 days from ______ [Insert the date 65 days after the date of mailing of the notice] If you fail to return the Consent to Become Party

Plaintiff form to the Plaintiffs' counsel in time for it to be filed with the federal court on or before the above deadline, you may not be able to participate in this lawsuit.

IV. EFFECT OF JOINING THIS ACTION

If you choose to join in this case, you will be bound by the Judgment, whether it is favorable or unfavorable.

The attorney for the class plaintiffs is being paid on a contingency fee basis, which means that if there is no recovery there will be no attorney's fee. If there is a recovery, the attorney for the class will receive a part of any settlement obtained or money judgment entered in favor of all members of the class. If you sign and return the Consent to Become Party Plaintiff form attached to this Notice, you are agreeing to designate the class representative as your agent to make decisions on your behalf concerning the litigation, the method and manner of conducting this litigation, the entering of an agreement with Plaintiffs' counsel concerning attorney's fees and costs, and all other matters pertaining to this lawsuit. These decisions and agreements made and entered into by the representative Plaintiff will be binding on you if you join this lawsuit. However, the Court has retained jurisdiction to determine the reasonableness of any contingency agreement entered into by the Plaintiff with counsel, and to determine the adequacy of the plaintiffs' counsel.

Furthermore, you can join this lawsuit by counsel of your own choosing. If you do so, your attorney must file an "opt-in" consent form by _____ [insert date that is 60 days from date of notice mailing].

V. TO STAY OUT OF THE LAWSUIT

If you do not wish to be part of the lawsuit, you do not need to do anything. If you do not join the lawsuit, you will not be part of the federal claims portion of this case in any way and will not be bound by or affected by the result (whether favorable or unfavorable). Your decision not to join this case will not affect your right to bring a similar case on your own at a future time. However, claims under the Fair Labor Standards Act must be brought within 2 years of the date the claim accrues, unless the employer's violation of the law was "willful," in which case the claim must be brought within 3 years.

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VI. NO RETALIATION PERMITTED

Federal law prohibits Defendants from discharging or in any other manner discriminating against you because you "opt-in" to this case, or have in any other way exercised your rights under the <u>Fair Labor Standards Act.</u>

VII. YOUR LEGAL REPRESENTATION IF YOU JOIN

If you choose to join this suit, and agree to be represented by the named Plaintiff through her attorney, your counsel in this action will be:

William C. Rand, Esq.
LAW OFFICE OF WILLIAM COUDERT RAND
711 Third Avenue, Suite 1505
New York, New York 10017
Telephone: (212) 286-1425
C0-counsel
Jeffrey M. Gottlieb, Esq.
Berger & Gottlieb
150 East 18th Street, Suite PHR
New York, New York 10003
Tel: (212) 228-9795
Attorneys for Plaintiffs

VIII. COUNSEL FOR DEFENDANTS

The counsel for Defendants is:

Darrell S. Gay, Esq. Arent Fox LLP 1675 Broadway, 34th Floor New York, N.Y.10019 (212) 484-3900

IX. FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information about this Notice, the deadline for filing a Consent to Become Party Plaintiff, or answers to questions concerning this lawsuit may be obtained by writing or phoning the Plaintiffs' counsel at the telephone number and address stated in Paragraph 6 above.

THIS NOTICE AND ITS CONTENTS HAVE BEEN AUTHORIZED BY THE FEDERAL DISTRICT COURT, HONORABLE JUDGE ROBERT W. SWEET. THE COURT HAS TAKEN NO POSITION IN THIS CASE REGARDING THE MERITS OF THE PLAINTIFFS' CLAIMS OR OF THE DEFENDANTS' DEFENSES.

DATED:, 2008	HONORABLE	
	U.S.D.J.	
	U.S.D.J.	

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK	EXHIBIT B TO RAND DECLARATION
CHARLENE JAMES, : Individually and on Behalf of All Other Persons : Similarly Situated, :	: ECF
Plaintiffs,	• :
-against-	:
T&H SECURITY, INC., CITADEL SPECIAL : EVENTS SERVICES, INC., THOMAS FERRARA, REIDA FERRARA, TYRONE A. YORIS and JOHN DOES #1-10, Jointly and Severally,	: : : :
Defendants.	· :
CONSENT TO BECOME PAI By my signature below, I hereby authorize the styled Fair Labor Standards Act action in my name a representative Plaintiff and so designate the collectiv make decisions on my behalf concerning the litigatio conducting this litigation, the entering of an agreeme concerning attorneys' fees and costs, and all other materials.	e filing and prosecution of the above and on my behalf by the above re class representative as my agent to on, the method and manner of ent with the Plaintiffs' counsel

Printed Name

Signature

Telephone

City, State, Zip code

Date

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM FOR FILING WITH THE COURT BY $____$ 2008 TO:

William C. Rand, Esq.
LAW OFFICE OF WILLIAM COUDERT RAND
711 Third Ave., Suite 1505
New York, New York 10017
(Phone) (212) 286-1425; (Fax)(212) 599-7909
Attorneys for Plaintiffs